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PROGRESS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ARBITRATION TREATY.

Ever since the publication last July of the correspondence between Secretary Olney and Lord Salisbury it has been evident that an arbitration treaty between this country and Great Britain is soon to be a fact. Public sentiment has continued to urge it, and Mr. Olney and Lord Salisbury have responded eagerly, and we are inclined to think enthusiastically, to the wishes of the two peoples. The dispatches from Washington indicate that our Secretary of State and Sir Julian Pauncefoot, plenipotentiaries for the negotiation of the treaty, have been working out the details of the plan with a harmony and zest rarely known in diplomatic conferences. Difficulties have been gotten out of the way almost as if by magic. The following sentence in the President's message of December 7th indicated that the treaty was then nearly completed: "Negotiations for a treaty of general arbitration for all differences between Great Britain and the United States are far advanced, and promise to reach a successful consummation at an early date."

This announcement was received with great satisfaction throughout the country, and received the favorable comments of the press both religious and secular. It is evident that, with small exception, the great heart of the two peoples is going into the treaty, and that it will be no mere formal or perfunctory agreement. It will have the support of all the great interests of the English-speaking world.

The wording of the sentence just quoted from Mr. Cleveland's message shows that the treaty is to be much more comprehensive than the plan originally suggested by the British Premier, set forth in the July publication, and that the larger and more comprehensive idea of our Secretary of State is to prevail. We gave it as our opinion at the time that Mr. Olney's conception was much the better and wiser, and we are very glad that Lord Salisbury has become willing to concede the justness of this position. Many English publicists and statesmen gave their judgment in favor of Mr. Olney's contention, as entirely reasonable.

From late advices, we are assured that the treaty is already completed, and that by the time this paper reaches our readers it will have been laid before the Senate for ratification. There is no reason to doubt that the Senate's action will be prompt and favorable, though it is said that there may be an effort to delay action on it, for party reasons, until Mr. McKinley's administration comes in. The negotiation of the treaty has been the work of the present administration, and it ought to be ratified and proclaimed to the world before the 4th of March.

The details of the agreement have not yet been official-

ly made public, but enough is known to give assurance that it will cover practically all differences that may hereafter arise between the two countries. It will be drawn at first for a limited number of years. To this no serious objection can be made, for if the experiment of such a convention is ever tried, its beneficent results will be so many and varied that it will be promptly renewed at the expiration of the time, and probably then for all time.

The court of arbitration to be set up under the treaty is to be formed on the lines proposed originally by Lord Salisbury. Three permanent judicial officers are to be appointed by each of the two governments. These shall constitute the permanent board of arbitration. When entering upon an arbitration, they shall choose an umpire, whose vote shall be decisive in case they disagree. Provision is also made that, in case either power protests that the award is erroneous in respect to some fact of international law, the decision of the arbitrators shall be reviewed by a court composed of three judges from the supreme court of each of the nations. The decision of this court of appeal shall be by a vote of four to two, instead of five to one as originally proposed by Salisbury. The dispatches seem to indicate that this appellate court is not to have any umpire in case of disagreement.

We shall await with great interest the publication of this document, whose appearance is to mark the beginning of a new and momentous phase of internationalism. Nobody expects that the scheme as at first drawn will prove to be perfect. Modifications will doubtless be found necessary as between the two nations, and more especially when other nations begin to become parties to the agreement. But it will be found easy to "go on unto perfection," after a beginning has once been made.

SENATORIAL JINGOISM.

A good many things have happened in this country since the 17th of December, 1895, but the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs does not seem to have become aware of the progress of events. On the 18th ult., just a year and a day after the disastrous war scare over the Venezuela trouble, this committee, which seems to be the last stronghold of Congressional Jingoism, started another scare by passing a resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba. The stock market at once responded by serious fluctuations, the irritation existing in Spain was immediately intensified and very grave concern was felt by thoughtful men in Washington and elsewhere at the prospect of immediate rupture with Spain. The Senate Committee, under the lead of Cameron, Morgan, *et al.*, seem to have labored under the impression that the country would at once follow their lead, go wild with excitement as it did over the Venezuela message, and that they